

ROBERT L. CLARK, Jr.
DIRECTOR



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FRANK KEATING
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

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NOV 12 1996

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

August 21, 1996

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt,

I am writing in support of universal service, in which discounted, equitable telecommunication rates for libraries and schools will be the norm. Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and implied by this legislation that libraries and schools need an equity rate to allow them to serve as community access points to the information infrastructure and to provide the American people with an expanded range of information opportunities.

Oklahoma libraries are especially in need of a discounted, equitable rate because our libraries are primarily rural and isolated. Connectivity to a broader world is increasingly important the more isolated the community.

I hope that you will assure universal service for all Americans, particularly our Oklahoma rural residents. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Donna Skvarla

Donna Skvarla, Adm.
Office of Library Development

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Cumberland County
Public Library & Information Center

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August 23, 1996

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NOV 12 1996

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket 96-45, Universal Service

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I request that you support meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal-State Joint Board implement universal service provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Libraries such as ours need an equitable reduced rate for telecommunications cost so as to provide our local community with an expanded range of information resources to support our local mission. These lower rates will enable us to provide equity of access to all of our citizens in the Cumberland County area regardless of social economic factors.

The vast majority of public libraries serve communities of 25,000 people or less. These small libraries need lower rates so that they will be able to provide the latest technological access to their community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Jerry A. Thrasher
Library Director

JAT/skc

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Jerry A. Thrasher, Director
Marsha Grove, Assistant Director

222 Maiden Lane, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301-5000 919/483-1580

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CC 96-45
Docket

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY



MARC RACICOT, GOVERNOR

1515 E. 6TH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-3115

PO BOX 201800
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-1800

August 23, 1996

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

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NOV 12 1996

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Mr. Hundt:

Re: CC Docket 96-45, Universal Service

On behalf of the Montana State Library Commission, I am writing to support discounts for libraries and schools as the Federal Communications Commission implements the universal service provisions of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. We believe that by passing this legislation Congress intended carriers to provide discounted rates to libraries and schools.

In particular, libraries need an "equity rate" to serve their communities as access points to all kinds of electronic information. Information access gives citizens the opportunity to improve their understanding of the world, to increase job skills, and to prepare for the demands of citizenship in a democratic country.

Because libraries offer equal and free access to their services to a large number of citizens, they need the capacity to support many simultaneous users -- this service requires high bandwidth applications. Therefore, to insure access to all citizens, libraries need discounted telecommunication services whether provided by tariff or by contract.

In Montana, our libraries serve a predominantly rural population and therefore face high access charges to telecommunication services. These libraries need deeper discounts to reach established systems to provide information access to their citizens.

We encourage you to assure universal service for all citizens by providing discounted and equitable telecommunications rates for libraries and schools.

Sincerely yours,

Kaustige
Karen Strege
Montana State Librarian

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ACCESS

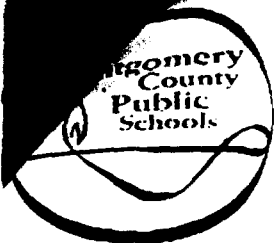
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850 Hungerford Drive • Rockville, Maryland • 20850-1747

Telephone (301) 279-3381

October 14, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Students, staff, and all life-long learners in the schools and libraries of the United States need reasonably priced telecommunications services. Affordable rates for education as mandated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, along with provisions for technological change, are essential to ensure ongoing equitable access to information and communication resources for all.

The Montgomery County Public Schools learning community, like school systems throughout Maryland and across the country, has been working long and hard to make telecommunications resources available to students and staff and to integrate technology in instruction. In 1993 our Board of Education and County Council made a major long-term financial commitment to electronically connect and equip all classrooms, media centers, and offices in over 190 buildings.

Parents, staff, students, business partners, local and state government, and other community members have invested significant time and money in building the required infrastructure. By early 1997 we will have all schools and field offices connected on a wide area network with a county-wide e-mail system and World Wide Web access. Every school will have networked workstations in the media center and office. Thirty-nine of 181 schools will have one or more networked computers in every classroom, and each year classrooms in more schools will be equipped until all are fully connected in 2004. We have committed resources to maintaining a World Wide Web site, and schools use the Internet for both research and electronic publishing.

As T-1 and 56K data lines and fax and voice-mail lines have been added to schools and offices, our telecommunications costs have risen, challenging an already constrained operating budget. We have asked our local service provider for discounts, but our requests have been denied. To fulfill the promise of the installed infrastructure and to continue its expansion, Montgomery County needs affordable educational telecommunications rates, the promise of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I strongly urge you to act in the best interests of students and learners throughout the United States and make that promise a reality for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul L. Vance'.

Paul L. Vance
Superintendent of Schools

PLV:pac

Copy to:

Members of the Board of Education

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VERDE



PTA

6590 VERDE TRAIL • BOCA RATON, FLORIDA 33433 • TEL: 561-852-6680

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October 5, 1996

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Diane Ballantyne-Curro
(561) 477-7699

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Tom Knoll
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(561) 368-1319

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School (561) 852-6680

Treasurer
Maureen Sutherland
(561) 347-1216

Corresponding Secretary
Linda Epstein
(561) 395-3571

Mr. Reed Hundt, Chair
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

As a concerned parent, and as a Board Member of Verde Elementary PTA and on their behalf, I am concerned about the current quality of children's television programming. Because of this, I am requesting that the following language be added to the Children's Television Act:

1. Require the following for "educational programming":
 - programming that has education as a "significant purpose"
 - programs that air between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
 - programs that are regularly scheduled and of substantial length (at least 15 minutes)
 - written statements provided by stations on the educational objectives and the child audience targeted by programming.
2. Require stations to identify educational children's programming when it airs to help parents choose these shows.
3. Mandate that stations air a minimum of three hours per week of educational shows for children. This requirement will rise to five hours per week over a period of several years.

Thank you so much for your consideration in this matter, and your support. It is community leaders like yourself who can make a difference.

Sincerely,

Nancy DeVine,
Second Vice President
Verde Elementary PTA

/nd

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NOV 12 1996

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

NOV 12 1996

Sept. 1996

Dear Chairman Hundt,

I am writing to support all schools and libraries in their effort to have access to technology at a reduced rate that is affordable.

Advanced technology in schools and libraries will ensure that we will have an informed nation. And what better place to start this commitment than in our schools and libraries. It is imperative that all our children and life-long learners have this accessibility to new technology in order to compete in the workplace of the 21st Century.

It is for this reason that I ask you to ensure telecommunication companies provide services to schools and libraries at reduced rates. Long term discount rates will enable students to be prepared to take their place in the next century.

Sincerely,

Theresa A. Currey
1011 Wheel Rd
Bel Air, MD
21015

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